

Oko language

Oko (òkɔ́), also known as **Ogori-Magongo** and **Oko-Eni-Osayin**, is a dialect cluster spoken in Nigeria. It appears to form a branch of the "Nupe–Oko–Idoma" (NOI) group of Niger–Congo languages. Most Oko speakers also speak Yoruba as a second language. The language is spoken in and around the towns of Ogori and Magongo in southwestern Kogi State, close to the Ondo and Edo state borders.

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Distribution

According to *Ethnologue*, Oko is spoken in:

- Edo State: Akoko-Edo LGA
- Kogi State: Okene LGA, Magongo, and Ogori towns

Varieties

Oko is a dialect cluster consisting of (*Ethnologue*):

- Oko (Ogori, Uku)
- Osayin(Magongo, Osanyin)
- Eni

Below is a list of Ọkọ–Eni–Ọsayin language cluster names, populations, and locations from Blench (2019).^[3]

Language	Alternate spellings	Other names (location-based)	Speakers
Ọkọ	Uku, Oko	Ogori (town name), Gori	4,000 (1970??)
Ọsayin	Osayin, Ọsayin	Magongo (town name)	3,000 (1970??)
Eni			3,000 (1970??)

Oko	
Ogori-Magongo	
Native to	Nigeria
Region	Kogi State
Native speakers	40,000 (2006) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Niger–Congo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atlantic–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Volta–Niger<ul style="list-style-type: none">NOI<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oko</div>
Dialects	Oko <p>Eni</p> Osayen
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	oks
Glottolog	okoe1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/okoe1238) ^[2]

Phonology

Consonants

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Alveolar	Palato-alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Labio-velar	Glottal
Nasal	m		n					
Voiceless plosive	p		t			k	kp̥	
Voiced plosive	b		d			g	gb̥	
Voiceless fricative		f	s					h
Voiced fricative			z					
Voiceless affricate				tʃ				
Voiced affricate				dʒ				
Trill			r					
Approximant			l		j		w	

Vowels

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Close-mid	e		o
Open-mid	ɛ		ɔ
Low		a	

Each vowel also has a nasal equivalent.^[4]

See also

- Okó word list (Wiktionary)

References

1. Oko (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/oks/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Okó-Eni-Osáye" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/okoe1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Blench, Roger (2019). *An Atlas of Nigerian Languages* (4th ed.). Cambridge: Kay Williamson Educational Foundation.
4. Atoyebi, Joseph Dele. 2009. A Reference Grammar of Oko. Umuneke-Okpala, Nigeria: Leipzig University Press.

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